

REMARKS

In the above-referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following groups:

Group I, claims 1-33 drawn to an electrochemical deposition chamber/system; and

Group II, claims 34-48 drawn to a method of electrochemically processing a microfeature workpiece.

The Examiner also requested an election between the following patentably distinct species:

Species 1, a cation-selective exchange barrier; and

Species 2, an anion-selective exchange barrier.

In response, the applicants elect Group I, Species 1, without traverse. Based on the applicants' review of the application, Group I, Species 1 includes claims 1 and 3-33. Non-elected claims 34-48 have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part, or other application. Non-elected claim 2 has been withdrawn without prejudice to consideration of this claim upon allowance of a generic claim. The foregoing election is made with the understanding that the Examiner and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office are now bound to the finding of non-obviousness between each of the species.

No fees are believed due with this communication. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

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Respectfully submitted,

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